Palumbo and Horlacher

ARCHITECTS, LTD.

December 17, 1981

Ms. Barbara Philpott
Bureau of Historic Preservation
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
P. O. Box 1026
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Carbondale City Hall

Dear Ms. Philpott:

I am writing in regard to the application prepared by Mr. Robert Powell, requesting listing of the Carbondale City Hall on the Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places.

As co-founder of the Architectural Heritage Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania, a Trustee of the Lackawanna Historical Society, and an architect by profession, I feel reasonably well qualified to recognize structures of historical and architectural significance. Additionally, my firm is presently working on the rehabilitation of the Historic Tripp Family Homestead for the Junior League of Scranton (a project partially funded through PHMC), and this experience has further increased my familiarity with the criteria important to your commission.

In regard to the eligibility of Carbondale City Hall, it is my opinion that the building is eminently qualified for listing at both the State and National levels. Not only is this Romanesque structure of superior architectural quality, but it has been, throughout most of Carbondale's colorful history, the focal point of the community.

I feel that Mr. Powell has done a commendable job in summarizing the architectural and historical features of the structure , and I certainly hope his application is viewed favorably by PHMC. If so, it may represent the first step toward the eventual rehabilitation of this rapidly deteriorating landmark.

Very ~~truly~~ yours,

Thomas C. Horlacher, A.I.A.

tch/lmb

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